defeat the very purpose for which an Assembly like this is constituted. The object of this Assembly is to enable the representatives of the people to state to the Government the real needs which the people of each locality feel, so that those needs might be taken into consideration by the Government and remedial measures adopted. Merely abusing people without apparently any foundation does not serve any useful purpose.

MEMBER: I shall produce evidence to support my statements.

DEWAN: You will perhaps have an opportunity for that. I am merely suggesting to members the desirability of making any statements for which they can personally vouch. In regard to the particular instance you have referred to, I may tell you that it will be enquired into.

7. Registry of lands in the Peermade taluk.

MR. C. A. ABDUL RAHIM (*Peermade taluk*) said that in his taluk there were vast areas of land fit for raising paddy and other crops, which were left as *tarisu*. He requested that those areas should be registered in the names of the inhabitants of the State at the minimum rate under the Puduval Rules. Only a quarter of the Vandammettu *Pakuthi* was wooded area, the rest being grass and swampy areas. The portion of the wooded area where there were valuable trees need alone be reserved and the remaining area should be thrown open for registry by cancelling the order of prohibition passed by Government in 1096.

Peermade was the centre of several commercial activities. Besides being the headquarters of a taluk with a First Class Magistrate's Court and some Government offices, it was daily resorted to by thousands of people for business. It was therefore very necessary that the grass lands lying waste in and around the town should be registered and assigned in small bits for constructing houses.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Abdul Rahim. I take it that your representation raised three points. The first point is the registry of lands within the cardamom reserve. As regards that, I might say that Government passed the order reserving that land for the benefit of the people of the State and the question of relaxing the strictness of that rule is being considered by Government.

Your second point is about the registry of lands outside the cardamom reserves wherever available. Such lands, when available for registry, are being registered and there is no prohibition against such registry.

Your third point is about the registry of house-sites in Peermade. There is absolutely no prohibition to the registry of house-sites in Peermade, and when any application is made to Government, they have absolutely no objection to register the land if it is available for registry.

MEMBER: But Government may raise some other objections.

DEWAN : That is why I said that, when applications are made in respect of lands *available for registry* these are being considered favourably.

8. Registry of lands in the Devicolam taluk.

MR. E. RAMAN TAMPI (*Devicolam taluk*) said that a G. O. was issued in 1921 prohibiting registries of land in the Cardamom Hills Reserve with a view to preventing the assignment of lands in the Reserve to British Indian subjects. As there were Travancoreans who desired to begin cardamom cultivation in the area, the G. O. should be withdrawn. The lands which had been leased during the previous years in auction should be assigned to Travancoreans.

Another G. O. was issued not long ago that lands taken over by Government for one chackram for arrears of tax etc., might be sold in auction. Those lands could be assigned to Travancoreans under the Cardamom Rules. All further registries within the reserve should be to *bona fide* subjects of the State and applications from foreigners and foreign companies should be rejected. A condition should be inserted in the *pattas* that alienations to non-Travancoreans would not be recognised, as in the case of registries to *Muduvans* and other hillmen.

Every cardamom estate required cooly lines, a house for the proprietor to live in and a store or cardamom factory for drying up the produce, which could be constructed only on grass lands. Grass lands should be assigned to cardamom *pattadars* notwithstanding the prohibition order, and a rule should be laid down that all cardamom *pattadars* would be entitled to a certain extent of grass land according to the size of the estate.

All good lands in the Devicolam and Peermade taluks were in the possession of foreign companies. There were vast areas of virgin and fertile forests on both sides of the Pallivasal-Neriamangalam road. Those lands should be divided into convenient blocks and registered otherwise than by auction to *bona fide* Travancoreans on a low rate of *tharavila*.

There was no provision in the Puduval Rules for assignment of lands without auction when there were no valuable improvements and *bona fide* occupation. The rule that there should be *bona fide* occupation and valuable improvements for registries otherwise than by auction indirectly encouraged encroachments on Government lands, which respectable and law-abiding citizens were not prepared to take advantage of. As Travancoreans could not compete successfully with foreign companies and capitalists in bidding at auction sales of lands, the Rules required modification. The member suggested therefore that the Land Assignment Rules should be so amended as to enable Travancoreans to get lands in the High Ranges registered in their names otherwise than by auction even when there were no improvements or occupation.